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Mary-Anne Wihak, director of visitor experiences for the Saskatchewan Parks Service, says crews have been busy getting the parks camper-ready for the May long weekend — the unofficial kickoff of the summer camping season. ALYSSA MCDONALD/METRO

Open season in the great outdoors

Provincial parks welcome campers. May long weekend heralds visitor boom, as cleanup continues after long winter

ALYSSA MCDONALD
alyssa.mcdonald@metronews.ca

The long winter might have extended the cleanup at Saskatchewan's provincial parks, but that will do little to keep campers away on Thursday's opening day.

Mary-Anne Wihak, director of visitor experiences for the Saskatchewan Parks Service, says there is little — weather or otherwise — that can stop the "interesting phenomenon (of) the Saskatchewan May long-weekend camper.

"They are a hardy bunch and have camped in rain, shine, sleet, snowbanks — it doesn't seem to affect those people, those early spring campers' enthusiasm," said Wihak. "They are just so anxious to get out there."

Saskatchewan's opening of its provincial parks is the kickoff to the summer season for many campers. However, remnants of this past long, brutal winter continue to be cleaned up.

"It certainly is having an impact in terms of how quickly the parks staff were able to get in and start cleaning out the campsites," Wihak said. "Campers can expect that they will see a lot of work ongoing for spring cleanup."

Crews have been working hard to get everything from washrooms to campsites operational for the weekend, though some green spaces and trails remain in rough condition following the recent spring melt.

There is still time to clean up before summer visitors crowd the 34 provincial parks across Saskatchewan.

May and June tend to be slow but steady for the parks service, before the peak season beginning in early July. Last year, provincial parks recorded 3.5 million visitors during the summer months.

"2012 had a record year for visits," Wihak said, "and there doesn't seem to be any indication that trend is going to change any time soon."

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NEWS 1

Concrete plans needed after housing summit: Advocates

Not satisfied. Housing announcements exciting, but more firm plans needed, some groups say

ALYSSA MCDONALD
alyssa.mcdonald@metronews.ca

Housing groups and advocates are looking forward to more concrete plans and promises to go with some strategies they found exciting at Regina's housing summit this week.

"Our whole Regina community is looking for some tangible announcements," Marc Spooner, an advocate and organizer for the alternative People's Housing Summit, said on Wednesday. "No new affordable housing units have been created, but they are in the works, which is great."

The summit ended on Tuesday, shortly before Mayor Michael Fougere announced a plan to sell nine city lots and two former bus turn-around sites to non-profit housing providers. The mayor also said he'll form a permanent advisory committee on housing, and announced a second housing summit slated for 2014.

Alaina Harrison, acting executive director of Carmichael Outreach, said the sale of city land is one of the points in Roof-Ready Regina, a set of seven recommendations made by local housing organizations.

"We have been asking for it and I just couldn't be more pleased," said Harrison, who attended both summits this week at a downtown hotel. "That is exactly what is needed to allow supportive housing providers an opportunity to purchase land at a low cost."

The big thing missing from Fougere's announcements, according to Harrison and Spooner, was a better definition of "affordable" housing.

"We are still waiting to see if they'll adopt a more appropriate definition of affordable renting," said Spooner.

"I am guessing that it is in the works and he will make another big announcement about how the city will consider affordable rental housing to be something more than the average market rental housing."

Spooner is also optimistic that community partners and advocates will be able to make presentations at, rather than just attend, the housing summit planned for next year.

Construction has begun on an in-fill housing project on Montreal Street in Regina's inner city — the kind of development that community organizations say is needed to create more affordable local homes. ROSS ROMANIUK/METRO

Potholes in full bloom this spring

A city crew fills in a pothole, in the City of Regina Public Works Yard. JEFF MACKEY/METRO

As sure as spring brings birds and bees each year to Regina, it also brings with it a more sinister, though equally prevalent creature to the city: the pothole.

Now that the snow is gone and weather is amicable, the city has started its annual ritual of filling in potholes left behind by winter's wear and tear.

"In a day, typically we put out between 20-25,000 tons of asphalt specifically towards potholes," Trevor Kosolofski, manager of asphalt services with the city, said on Wednesday.

Normally, city crews begin filling in potholes during the second or third week of April; this year they didn't get their start until last week.

The city is prioritizing main roads such as Ring Road, Saskatchewan Drive, Broad Street and Albert Street. Local roads, especially in older neighbourhoods that are particularly prone to potholes, are a lower priority than the city's major routes.

But the city says it is trying not to neglect local roads.

"Every call to the City of Regina … garners an inspection, and then there is a prioritization from that point," said Kosolofski. "Usually within a 48-hour period (of a complaint being filed) we have inspected it and prioritized it."

In fact, even the city's mayor isn't immune to complaints about potholes.

"I personally receive lots of calls, through my mayor's call-in and just people I talk to on the street," said Mayor Michael Fougere. "We normally would have started by now but the weather has been, as you know, pretty bad." JEFF MACKEY/METRO

Movie and a drink

Want a pint with your popcorn?

A movie with popcorn, and with beer. The Saskatchewan government is allowing it, as long as a theatre becomes interested in offering alcohol to customers.

The province put 39 changes to its liquor regulations into effect on Wednesday, some of them — among others yet to kick in this summer — allowing for significant differences in the way alcoholic beverages are made available in Saskatchewan at theatres, on golf courses, and later this year, at spas.

No theatre in the province has yet secured permits to sell beer or possibly wine or liquor to cinema patrons. But Donna Harpauer, minister responsible for the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority, said on Wednesday that the national Cineplex chain is eyeing the province for the kinds of alcohol offerings it makes available at some of its cinemas in other parts of Canada.

Any booze at cinemas would have to be sold "separate and apart from a theatre that has children," Harpauer said at the legislature.

"It doesn't have to be a separate building. It possibly could be a dividing wall. Cineplex is interested — I don't know whether they'll move forward or not."

Michael Langdon, Cineplex's director of communications, didn't tip the company's hand on what its potential plans are in Saskatchewan.

"We're always looking at a variety of different sites," Langdon said from Toronto.

"We generally don't speculate on things that may occur in the future."

Other changes in effect allow golf courses to decide on their number of alcoholic beverage carts or kiosks to serve their patrons.

The rest of the total of 77 liquor regulation changes announced last fall, Harpauer said, will likely take effect late this summer. ROSS ROMANIUK/METRO

CONTRIBUTED/SASKATCHEWAN TRIATHLON

FRED DYCK

The executive director for the Saskatchewan Triathlon Association Corporation talks about the rising popularity of the sport

SWIM, BIKE, RUN

Conjuring images of extremely athletic people pushing their bodies to unbelievable limits through a trifecta of swimming, cycling and running, the triathlon seems like it may be a sport for only the athletic elite.

But according to Fred Dyck, executive director for Saskatchewan Triathlon Association Corporation, the sport is something everyone can participate in, which may explain why it's attracting more people in the province than ever before.

"We've just been on this steady growth curve," said Dyck. "We had (a) record number of participants and record number of memberships last year and that's kind of a trend that's been going on."

A triathlon course can come in a variety of forms, from a sprint — which sees athletes competing over shorter distances — to ultra distance, which is similar to running a marathon. Because of this variation, Dyck said people shouldn't find a triathlon intimidating.

"There is a perception out there that our sport is just about those crazy triathletes. And we're proud of those people, and we've got some in our province, but at the same time we're more than just that," said Dyck. "We really do try our best in all of our events to have an opportunity for all ages, both genders, all skill levels to participate."

Dyck points to the Subaru Saskatoon Triathlon, taking place in the Bridge City on June 30, as a sure sign the sport is growing in popularity in Saskatchewan, calling the opportunity to host the event a great honour.

"The event is kind of like a coming-of-age for the sport in our province," said Dyck. "We will get to see some elite races here — people that are professionals. It's still going to be a race that 95 per cent of the participants are amateurs … but because it becomes this broadcasted event, there will be some professionals here too."

While seeing hundreds of athletes from across North America participating in such a major event is exciting, Dyck said the opportunity to host is a huge coup for the Saskatchewan triathlon community.

"To have this opportunity for our local athletes ... to not have to travel for one of these world-class-level events is really exciting for our community," said Dyck.

JANE CAULFIELD/METRO IN SASKATOON

Regina cops take a bite out of crime

A police canine unit demonstrates its technique in apprehending a suspect at the Regina Police Showcase on Wednesday at the Brandt Centre. It was the 15th annual Showcase, in which the police service shows the public the way that several of its units operate. ALYSSA MCDONALD/METRO

B.C. election. Pollsters explain their total failure

When it comes to opinion surveys, respondents tend to say they plan to vote, even if it's not necessarily true.

That was the explanation offered Wednesday by two of the nation's most prominent pollsters when asked how they all managed to get B.C.'s election forecasts so utterly wrong.

Ipsos Reid public-affairs vice-president Kyle Braid said 70 to 80 per cent of Canadians say they plan to vote in federal elections, even though the actual turnout is closer to 60 per cent.

"We need a better way of figuring out who the voters are," Braid said.

Mario Canseco, vice-president of Angus Reid Public Opinion, said the trend is even stronger among voters 18 to 34 — who said they were twice as likely to vote NDP as Liberal.

It won't be clear until Elections BC releases its exit-poll results whether more young voters skipped the ballot box. But historically, just 16 per cent of B.C.'s electorate is made of voters aged 18 to 35.

"We're talking to young people, but are we talking to too many?" Canseco wondered.

KATE WEBB/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Canipre. Anti-piracy firm caught using stolen photos

It's an embarrassing coincidence for the company leading the fight to uncover, and punish, online copyright infringement in Canada.

The Montreal-based company has changed the images on its website upon learning that several had been used without permission.

It was an awkward twist for Canipre, which offers "takedown services" on behalf of their other clients.

The company says it did not know that its contracted web designer used the images improperly and learned only through an article on the Vice website. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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One government insider says the $90,000 sent to Sen. Mike Duffy was a gift to help a friend in financial difficulty. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Senator repaid cash, but not on his dime

$90,000. Gift from PM's chief of staff raises even more accusations of corruption, coverup

Less than a week after the Conservatives hailed Sen. Mike Duffy's "leadership" in repaying $90,000 in improper housing expenses, it turns out someone else made the bill go away.

Stephen Harper's chief of staff Nigel Wright personally covered Duffy's repayment, the Prime Minister's Office said on Wednesday — a transaction one insider described as a gift between friends that occurred without Harper's knowledge.

But the surprising transaction is raising questions about just how involved the Prime Minister's Office might have been with an independent audit into Duffy's expenses, and how it later portrayed that audit publicly.

The Senate's conflict-of-interest code explicitly prohibits senators from accepting any gift that "could reasonably be considered to relate to the senator's position." The Senate ethics officer refused to comment on the matter Wednesday, despite the fact gifts are supposed to be publicly disclosed.

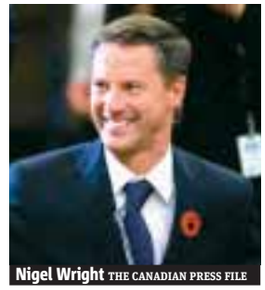
The expense claims of Duffy and two other senators were examined by auditor Deloitte after they were accused of improperly claiming a housing allowance intended to compensate those who must maintain a secondary residence in Ottawa.

Deloitte noted in its report that Duffy stopped co-operating with the audit once the repayment was made. Now the government is refusing to provide any detailed breakdown of the expenses repaid by Duffy, keeping secret the full circumstances under which he was making claims. THE CANADIAN PRESS

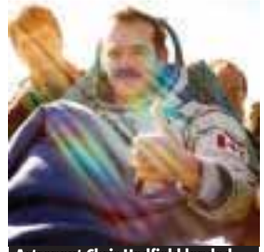
Trust no one?

"We can't trust the Senate; obviously the Senate has no credibility on this. We can't trust the prime minister's word."

NDP ethics critic Charlie Angus, who called for a full investigation.



Nigel Wright THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE



Astronaut Chris Hadfield landed safely on Tuesday in Kazakhstan. MIKHAIL METZEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hadfield once a social media twit

Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield may have become a worldwide Internet sensation with his dramatic photos, tweets and musical performances from space.

But it took some convincing by his sons to persuade him of the importance of social media in the first place.

He initially balked when they began preaching the merits of Twitter and Facebook more than three years ago.

During a family Christmas get-together in 2009, his son Evan, who lives in Germany, and Kyle, who is in China, pointed out that they relied on the Internet to find out what's going on.

They got on his case again when his five-month mission was announced in September 2010. They then decided to set up his social-media sites.

Upon his return to Earth this week, Hadfield was hovering at about one million Twitter followers and more than 325,000 "Likes" on Facebook. His photography and music, distributed mainly through social media, earned him news coverage around the world. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cleveland.
Castro to plead not guilty

The lawyers for a man accused of keeping three women in captivity for about a decade say he will plead not guilty.

Attorneys Craig Weintraub and Jay Schlachet told WKYC-TV that suspect Ariel Castro has been portrayed as a "monster" in the media, and after meeting with him Tuesday they don't see him that way. Schlachet says details of Castro's innocence "will be disclosed as the case progresses." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ariel Castro
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'I am broken because part of me is gone': Bosma's wife

Missing-man case.
Wife makes anguished speech on same day accused is slapped with murder charge

Sharlene Bosma, the wife of Tim Bosma, who was killed after posting his truck for sale online, holds back tears at a news conference in Ancaster, Ont., on Wednesday. DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The young daughter of an Ontario man who was killed after posting his truck for sale online and taking a test drive with two men will grow up knowing how deeply he was loved, the man's wife vowed Wednesday.

Sharlene Bosma laid her anguish bare in a tearful public statement one day after police revealed that her husband Tim Bosma, 32, who had been missing since the test drive on May 6, is dead.

"Yesterday was the most horrifying day of my life and people tell me I have been so strong, and all I know is that I have a beautiful two-year-old girl at home who now needs her mommy more than ever and needs her mommy to hold it together, so I know that I cannot fall apart," she said.

"But I am broken because part of me is gone." Bosma's remains were found in Waterloo Region.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Background

Fateful online classified ad

Murder victim Tim Bosma posted his 2007 black Dodge Ram truck for sale online — including on the classifieds website Kijiji. However, Kijiji says that the murder suspects would not have been able to contact Bosma through its site. Bosma didn't reveal personal information on the site.

Dellen Millard, 27, was originally charged with forcible confinement and theft over $5,000. A charge of first-degree murder was added Wednesday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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This photo shows an Android display at the Google I/O developers' conference in June 2012. This year's version of the conference kicked off on Wednesday in San Francisco. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Google unveils music streaming service

San Francisco. Raft of announcements at developers' conference also cover Google Plus features, Maps redesign

Google's sixth annual conference for software developers opened Wednesday with a chance for the company to showcase its latest services. Announcements include a new phone, new tools for online games, a music-streaming service, a range of features for the Google Plus social network — including tools for sharing and enhancing photos — and a redesign of Google Maps.

The audience of about 6,000 people at Google I/O includes engineers and entrepreneurs who develop applications and other features that can make smartphones and tablets more appealing.

Google's All Access streaming service will allow Android users to listen to their favourite songs and artists for a monthly fee. It launched in the U.S. Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

North Pole nations. Canada takes over Arctic Council

Canada has officially taken over leadership of a newly broadened circumpolar world, beginning a two-year stint as head of an eight-member group of countries around the North Pole that is the primary international forum on northern issues.

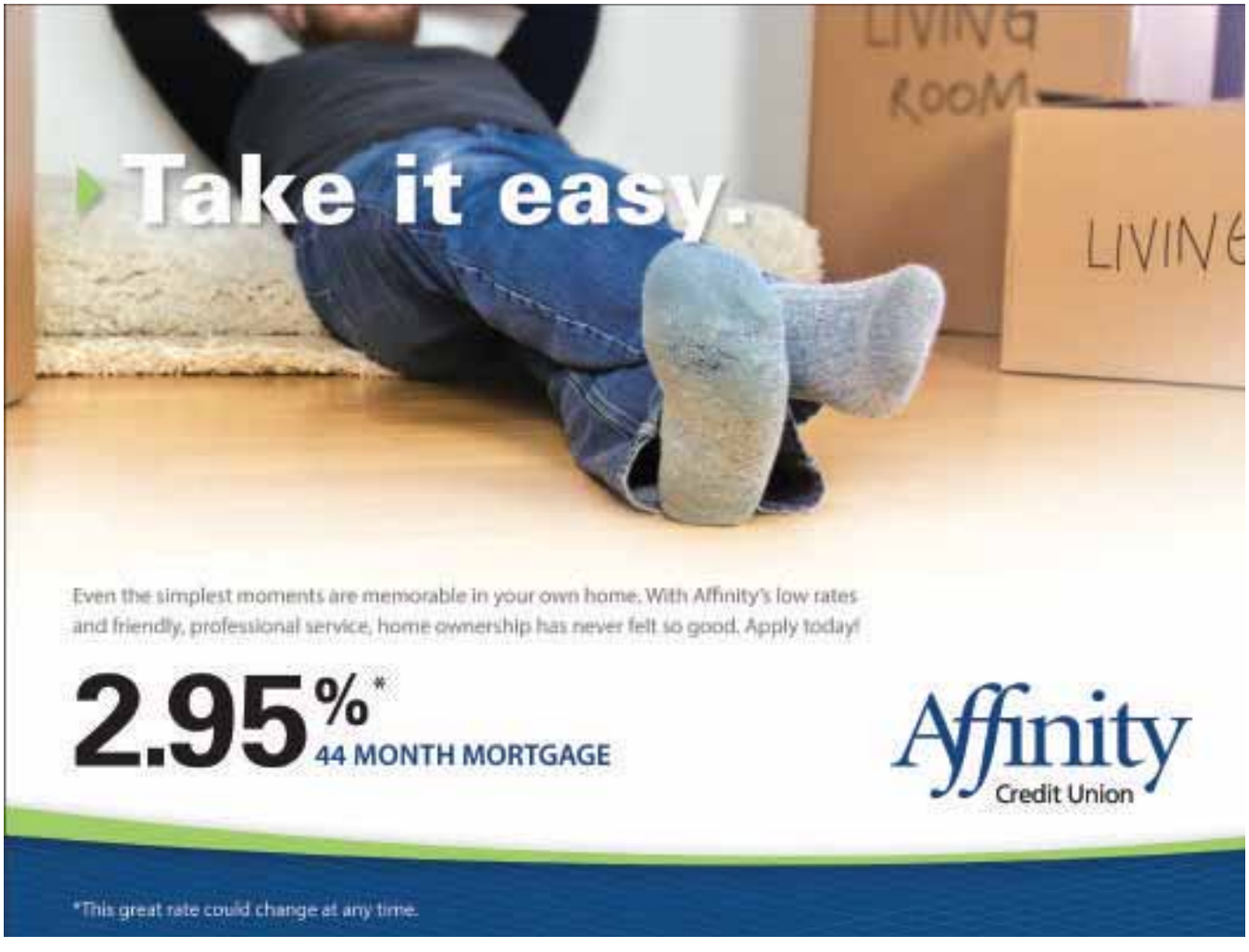
"The time has come to embrace the Arctic and realize the tremendous potential and opportunities it has to offer for all of us," said federal Health Minister and Nunavut MP Leona Aglukkaq, who will serve as Arctic Council chairwoman during Canada's leadership.

Aglukkaq will be working with a larger group of countries interested in an increasingly accessible, resource-rich North. At its meeting in Kiruna, Sweden, on Wednesday, the council expanded the number of non-Arctic countries allowed to monitor discussions. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sweden's Foreign Minister Carl Bildt hands the gavel symbolizing the chairmanship of the Arctic Council to Nunavut MP Leona Aglukkaq in Kiruna, Sweden, on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WWF perspective

- The World Wildlife Fund, which has observer status, said the council is slowly making progress. The group praised agreements on oil spills and biodiversity and talks to strengthen shipping regulations. But it pointed out a deal on black carbon, or soot, was blocked and there has been little progress on climate change.



Real estate

Home sales down 3% from year ago

Canadian home prices continued to rise in April even as year-over-year sales fell three per cent, according to the latest industry data that has left economists divided over whether the market can count on a soft landing.

"I think some people are perhaps confused by the fact that we've seen a drop in sales but prices haven't fallen yet," said David Madani, an economist at Capital Economics.

"But that's normal because prices respond to sales activity with a lag," said Madani, who believes it's still too early to rule out a sharp correction in what until recently has been an overheated market. The real test will be the summer months when the housing market typically heats up, he added. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Saskatchewan

Viterra plans $20M upgrade at four grain terminals

Viterra Inc. says it will spend more than $20 million to upgrade four of its grain terminals in Saskatchewan, where the company has its roots.

The firm will increase rail capacity at all four locations while the operations in White Star and Humboldt, Sask., will also get more storage. The company said storage capacity at White Star, north of Prince Albert, will be tripled while capacity at the grain elevator in Humboldt will be doubled.

The company's Waldron and Ituna facilities as well as Humboldt are served by Canadian National Railway while White Star is on the Carlton Trail Railway. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR
98.31¢ (-0.02¢)

TSX
12,473.65 (-103.40)

OIL
$94.30 US (+9¢)

GOLD
$1,396.20 US (-$28.30)

Natural gas: $4.07 US (+5¢)
Dow Jones: 15,275.69 (+60.44)

ROMANTICIZING YOUR ROAD TRIP

HE SAYS

John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

Time to hit the road, Jack!

The Victoria Day weekend is the unofficial kickoff of Canada's summer (because we're sure as he-- not waiting for real summer) and for me that has always meant road trips.

It could mean a jaunt to a cottage to celebrate Queen Victoria's glorious reign (Her Majesty was known for her gardening, cottage cleaning and barbecue skills). Or it could be a longer journey this summer to see some of this country's most important roadside fruits, such as the Oxford, N.S., blueberry.

Regardless of your travelling tastes, here are a few planning tips to help any road trip go more smoothly, potholes notwithstanding.

Six tips from a roads scholar

Plan (or don't plan) to your liking. If you're the type of person who prefers every part of your trip planned out to the letter, take advantage of modern technology and use Google Maps. If you're more of an adventurer and prefer to have no idea where you're going, use Apple Maps.

Choose your travelling partners carefully. For example, don't take your children. On one trip when I was younger I repeatedly sang Sloop John B ("This is the worst trip I've ever been on") to let my parents know the all-expenses-paid road trip they were treating me to was not living up to my exacting 14-year-old standards. I'm still mad at them, because in retrospect they should have left me on the side of the road to die. They would have been right to do it.

Rent a well-equipped vehicle. That way if you can't find a perfect travelling partner, you can still get companionship with the help of the OnStar button. "Is there something broken in the vehicle, sir?" "Only the driver, ma'am. Only the driver." The call disconnects a lot for some reason, so you'll need to keep calling back.

Prepare for emergencies. Be ready for flat tires. All motorists should carry with them a vulcanized rubber patch, a hand pump, rubber cement, and a wading pool filled with enough water to detect a leak in a 17-inch radial.

Do not forget that you are sitting on a pack of Junior Mints and grinding the melted chocolate into the fabric of your rental car. I can't stress this one enough. I can say based on personal research that in 2012 this statistically happened 100 per cent of the time. So be prepared.

Take the road less travelled. By that I mean go to New Brunswick. My home province needs it and will be thrilled to see you, once the shock wears off. Toronto's tourism slogan is "We've been expecting you," which is very apt for Canada's super villain. By contrast, New Brunswick's is "For the love of God please stop the car." If you go you'll be popular and may become an attraction yourself.

And those are my travelling tips. I hope you find them helpful.

Now if you'll excuse me, I have a romantic road-trip weekend planned.

Mrs. OnStar's going to love it when she finds out.

ZOOM

Ghana's space dreams take flight

CHRISTIAN THOMPSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Satellite is just the beginning

Students use a balloon to launch Deployable CanSat, a soda-can sized model of a satellite, at All Nations University in Koforidua, Ghana, Wednesday. It went aloft to a height of 165 metres and then came back down attached to a parachute.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The project doesn't look like much, yet in this developing West African country, ambitious organizers see it as a sign of bigger things to come.

Only direction to go is up

"Some wonder why we couldn't concentrate on our problems of water, sanitation, health, all those things. I categorically disagree.... Space will help African countries who are very serious with it to leapfrog their development because it cuts across all sectors of the economy."

Prosper Kofi Ashilevi, director of the Ghana Space Science and Technology Center, which recently celebrated its one-year anniversary

"We hope that this practical demonstration of what can be done by students like them will generate more enthusiasm, fire up their imagination to come up with more creative things, and show that it's possible that they'll one day be able to launch their own real satellite into orbit," he added.

Click bait

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

You know what's the worst? The terror of discussing your favourite shows the next day when there's always someone within earshot to give you a tongue-lashing about spoilers. Why should you pay for them being laggards? Try these sites for sharp recaps and witty discussion about the best TV.

The AV Club

The Onion's sister site makes it easy to decide what shows to catch up on by attaching a letter grade to each review. Intrigued by Twitter chat about The Americans? Check its report card here. (avclub.com)

Grantland

Molly Lambert's take on whatever bleak note Mad Men ended on pairs with Andy Greenwald's funny and insightful pieces on Game of Thrones for Monday afternoon's best one-two punch. (grantland.com)

Vulture

Easily the snarkiest of this lot, Vulture's writers take particular delight in savaging shows that secretly drive you crazy, too. Ahem, The Walking Dead. The hidden gems are the hilarious American Idol recaps, which are much more fun than the actual episodes. (vulture.com)

Comments

RE: $84 Gelato, And Other Tourist Trap Horror Stories, published May 15

Wow, perhaps people should visit natural features of the planet instead of man-made structures! It barely costs anything to hike or cycle unless you prefer a guide. Can't these tourists do the money conversion to figure out what they're really paying? If people were smart, they would just walk away!

Skippy76 posted to metronews.ca

Twitter

@metropicks asked: Angelina Jolie had a mastectomy after finding out via gene tests she is predisposed to cancer. Would you do the same?

@halla_p: As a mother of two young ones ... You betcha!!!

@GACat: Yes, I would do the same thing. In a heartbeat.

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:
Send us your comments: reginaletters@metronews.ca

metro

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SCENE 2

They searched to the ends of the earth and found this man

Gregory Burke to head Remai. NZ native did stints at Wellington City Art Gallery, T.O.'s Power Plant

BACKSTAGE PASS
Simon Hiatt
saskatoon@metronews.ca

The search for an executive director and CEO for the Remai Art Gallery of Saskatchewan took board members, quite literally, to the ends of the earth.

While he has spent the past several years working in eastern Canada, Gregory Burke, the man who will be in charge of the gallery when it opens its doors, hails originally from New Zealand.

"Our goal was to launch a search that could reach nationally and internationally, because we really wanted to find someone who brought credibility and connections at those levels," said president and chair of the board of trustees Jason Aebig.

While they may have had to go a ways to find him, that goal seems to be accomplished with the hiring of Burke.

He is the former director of the largest contemporary art museum in New Zealand and also was the chief curator at the Wellington City Art Gallery, before being lured to Toronto to serve as director of The Power Plant, another renowned modern art facility.

2015 opening

The Remai Art Gallery of Saskatchewan is slated to open in two years at River Landing in Saskatoon. While it is a major undertaking, board chair Jason Aebig says it has come together relatively quickly as funding was secured 19 months ago.

- "To us (the hiring of Burke) is sort of the final piece of the puzzle. We had a vision for a new building, we wanted a world-class collection and we've got that with the Picasso collection, and we wanted a senior leader who could match all of that."

Most recently he has been doing freelance work as an independent consultant, curator and writer, but was intrigued by the possibilities of returning to a permanent job.

"There are certain aspects about being independent that are particularly enjoyable after you've been working in institutions. So I've been very choosy about going back into that type of role," Burke said in a telephone interview.

"I saw this position advertised for the CEO job in Saskatoon and was struck by it for a number of reasons. The ambition of it, I know and respect the architect and it's a visionary project and quite frankly the most exciting thing happening in the visual arts in Canada right now."

The international search for an executive director and CEO of the Remai Art Gallery ended with Gregory Burke. SUPPLIED

Burke has secured permanent residency status and will be moving to the province next month, but has already gotten to work determining his vision for the facility.

"This project is going to be at an international level," Burke said.

"But at the same time it's got the community behind it and that's really important. It has to engage with the community."

While the facility and its already impressive works of art, which include a $20 million dollar Picasso collection, wowed Burke, he says he has been equally charmed by the community itself.

"When I mention to people I'm moving to Saskatoon there's an immediate warm response. People love Saskatoon and that was certainly significant in my decision as well."

Benjamin Percy, author of Red Moon, says, "The end of the world has never been so popular, because the end of the world has never seemed more possible..." HANDOUT

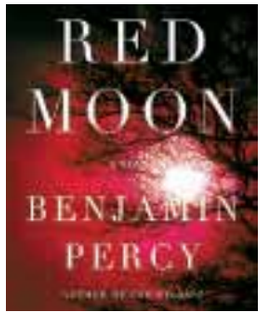
The apocalypse, some werewolves and a little love

Interview. Author Benjamin Percy talks about his new book Red Moon and why the genre is more popular than ever

DOROTHY ROBINSON
Metro World News

Author Benjamin Percy says he's "always loved the epic novel — the kind that swallows up your life, that tangles you in its complicated web — and I've always wanted to write one." And his new book Red Moon is just that. The sweeping tome is a mixture of a supernatural thriller (hello, werewolves), a love story and a political allegory all wrapped up in one insanely readable package. Here's how he did it:

How did you come to write a book about werewolves?
Some of the most lasting horror stories target cultural unease. Consider Frankenstein: The creature embodies the fear of science and technology; man playing God; all of the anxieties that swirled out of the Industrial



Revolution. So when I sat down to brainstorm Red Moon, I considered what we fear now. We fear disease and we fear terrorism.

Why do you think that apocalyptic and post-apocalyptic narratives are so addictive these days?
They've been around forever, but since 9/11 there has been a flood of films and novels. The end of the world has never been so popular, because the end of the world has never seemed more possible due to political and economic and environmental unrest.

Red Moon is part love story, part horror and part political allegory. But if you had to whittle down the point, what is it?
I hope my readers feel struck by the political allegory, and I hope their pulse quickens with the love story, and I hope the more horrifying passages scare the pants off of them. Its core — this post-9/11 reinvention of the werewolf myth — is thought-provoking entertainment.

In depth

What kind of research did he do to nail down the book's militaristic aspects?

- **Quote.** "I spent dozens of hours with researchers at the USDA and Iowa State University, trying to figure out the slippery science behind animal-borne pathogens and vaccinations. I had to talk to politicians and government agents and brewmasters and pharmacists. And I got my hands on the Marine Corps handbook," Percy said.

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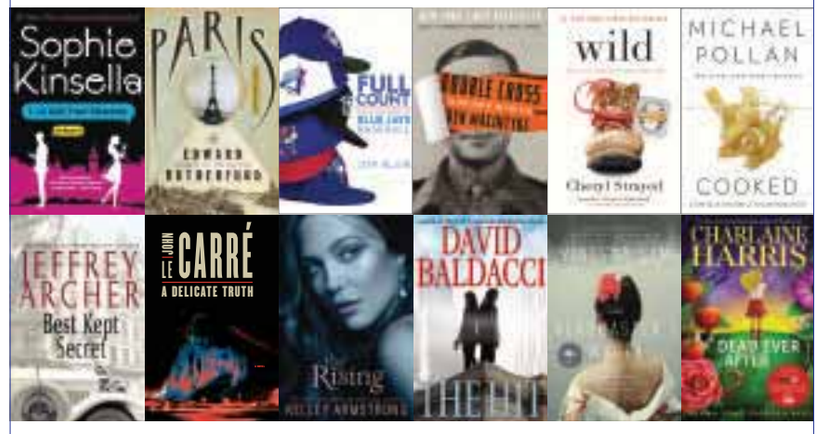

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Youngblood Hawke swims into the deep

Music. After a false start with another band, Sam Martin and Simon Katz are back with a new band to Wake Up the world

ALEXANDRA CAVALLO
Metro World News

Youngblood Hawke's new album, Wake Up, is opening some eyes. HANDOUT PHOTO

To hear Youngblood Hawke's Sam Martin talk, you might imagine him some kind of environmentalist, rather than the frontman of a swiftly rising indie pop outfit.

"I think it's important to conserve nature and take care of our earth," he says.

"I feel like one day we're going to look, and it's going to disappear on us, and we're going to wish that we had lived a little bit differently."

He's talking about the inspiration for the music video for the band's single We Come Running, which was filmed entirely underwater and features the band members swimming alongside live sharks. "We wanted to show people that they weren't these man-eating killers. We can't keep slaughtering these animals at the rate we're doing it, because we're going to completely wipe them out. And the ocean would die."

Indeed, Martin says that if he weren't a musician he'd probably be working in the great outdoors. But he's otherwise employed, making infectious, up-tempo electro-rock with one of his best college buds, producer Simon Katz.

Martin and Katz have been collaborating ever since the two moved from Colorado to L.A. to start their first band, Iglu & Hartly.

The band enjoyed moderate success, scoring a Top 5 hit in Europe, before dissolving suddenly — and painfully, says Martin — due to strained relationships with other members. The pair seem to be in a much better place now.

"I feel confident in our album and our songwriting abilities. I think we're just fortunate to be in this position right now," he says.

Giving it their all

When asked to describe the band's sound, Martin hesitates.

- **Quote.** "I feel like describing music is like trying to describe a colour," he says. "There's rock, there's dance, there's definitely synth and there's some pop elements to it, definitely. ... What separates us is that we have some weirder lyrics that we balance out with the pop choruses."
- **It's easier to articulate the band's unofficial mission statement.** "We're all kind of excited about life. We just like to give people a great experience. They come to a show and buy a ticket, they should walk away feeling like we gave all of our effort to entertain them."

Quote

"I feel confident in our album and our songwriting abilities. I think we're just fortunate to be in this position right now."

Sam Martin
Youngblood Hawke.

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie

Emotional Brad proud Angelina went public about double mastectomy

No one is as moved by Angelina Jolie's decision to go public about her double mastectomy than her partner, Brad Pitt. "I'm quite emotional about it, of course," he tells USA Today. "She could have stayed absolutely private about it and I don't think anyone would have been none the wiser with such good results. But it was really important to her to share the story and that others would understand it doesn't have to be a scary thing. In fact, it can be an empowering thing and something that makes you stronger and us stronger."

Twitter

@ewan_mcgregor
It's a beautiful day. Busy and not. Exciting things on the horizon. And where I stand – is pretty lovely.

@GarryShandling
The photographer told me today that "head shots" are not in my acting range.

@daxshephard1
As happy as I am about the renewal, I was kinda looking forward to getting the Parenthood Movie funded on kick starter.

Amy Winehouse to be immortalized in bronze at her parents request

Amy Winehouse's parents have enlisted artist Scott Eaton to sculpt a life-size bronze statue of the late singer to be displayed at London music venue the Roadhouse, which happens to be the last place Winehouse performed before her death, according to E! News. "She's going to be installed on the balcony in the Roundhouse in the Camden area, because Camden is her home where she lived. So she's kind of looking back towards Camden Town from the balcony," Eaton says. "So it's not going to be ... cheesy. She's not with a microphone or anything like that."

Artist's quote

"She's going to be installed on the balcony in the Roadhouse in the Camdem area."

Scott Eaton, artist.
On where the statue will be placed.

The Word

Beyoncé says sorry to Belgium for cancelled gig

Beyoncé felt so bad about canceling a gig in Antwerp, Belgium — on doctors orders because she was suffering from "dehydration and exhaustion" — that she posted a handwritten apology on her website. "To my dearest fans in Antwerp, I've never postponed a show in my life. It was very hard for me. I promise I will make it up very soon. I'm sorry if I disappointed you," Beyoncé wrote. "Thank you for your concern. I'm feeling much better now and I'm ready to give you a great show. See you tonight." The singer's health concerns almost immediately sparked rumours that she is pregnant with her second child.

Lindsay Lohan ALL IMAGES GETTY

Lindsay Lohan said to be coping well in rehab despite Adderall hiccup

Lindsay Lohan is more than 10 days into her court-ordered 90-day rehab stint at the Betty Ford Center, and it's apparently just fine, according to E! News. "She is doing well. She seems like she's finally adjusted," a source says. There was reportedly some uproar in the first week when Lohan allegedly discovered doctors wouldn't allow her to take the ADD prescription drug Adderall, but things have settled down, according to the source: "She is just going to have to deal with it."

Amy Winehouse

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The fashionable gent's favourite fine-clothing purveyor brings one of literature's most charismatic and complicated characters to the world's closet.

METRO WORLD NEWS

The great Gatsby getup

Silver screen style. Brooks Brothers GM Deepak Chopra teaches the modern man to mix some movie magic into his wardrobe

It isn't a fashion film if it doesn't have a clothing line attached to it. Brooks Brothers is taking the menswear looks they provided for the screen to the store with its Great Gatsby-inspired collection. Yep, that means you can get a hold of Jay Gatsby's 20s-style tailoring.

"Brooks Brothers is mentioned numerous times in Fitzgerald's writings as a representation of the ultimate gentleman's purveyor of fine clothing to the American man of distinction," says Catherine Martin, the costume designer behind the film's 500-strong wardrobe, in a statement to the press.

Metro recently had the opportunity to speak with Deepak Chopra, general manager of Brooks Brothers at Royal Bank Plaza in Toronto, to find out about the collection and his must-have suggestions.

The tuxedo

Every man should own a tuxedo, but how many of us do? At the current price point, Chopra says now is the time to invest.

JACKET, $935; TROUSERS, $272; BACKLESS VEST $196; BAT WING BOW TIE, $60; TUXEDO SHIRT, $148.

The cardigan

The bottle-green shawl cardigan — seen in the movie — is another timeless piece to add to your wardrobe, Chopra suggests.

CARDIGAN, $168

The linen suit

Perfect for summer, the linen suit offers a sense of relaxed ease. It is available in a number of colours and patterns — pink-stripped, ivory, light brown — and the pants can be worn with suspenders or belts.

JACKETS, $725; PANTS $328

The waist jacket

While they look good paired with the linen suits, Chopra notes the waist jackets can add a dapper air to a pair of chinos or jeans.

WAIST JACKETS, $328

BROOKSBROTHERS.COM

The tuxedo's backless vest features an art deco Greek key design.

The collection also features two regatta jackets; one with burgundy stripes and the other edged in gold, blue and burgundy. $875.

Chopra draws attention to the shoes in the collection, which include a wingtip (shown), black patent leather, and a white and brown loafer. $385 to $655

Madame of the movies

Tiffany is also toasting the Jazz Age with its new Ziegfeld collection, based on the brand's archival jewelry designs from the 1920s.

Ziegfeld Cuff Links

Named for New York's legendary Ziegfeld Theatre, this collection captures the style and sophistication of the 1920s.

CUFF LINKS IN STERLING SILVER WITH BLACK ENAMEL FINISH. $385

Ziegfeld Collection Pearl Earrings

An elegant tribute to the Roaring Twenties. Earrings in sterling silver with freshwater cultured pearls.

PEARLS, 9-10 MM. $495

TIFANNY.CA

EDITOR'S PICK

The club collar

Looking to stand out? Kovalum's Bradford blue and white club shirt not only harkens back to old-school dapperness, it will also set you apart from the point-collared crowd at the office this summer.

$124.99, KOVALUM.COM

Three graphic, go-with-anything tees

To spruce up a blah wardrobe day, just add jeans and stir.

KENYA HUNT
Metro World News in London

COS
Open back print top
$89, cosstores.com

Zara
African print tee
$30, zara.com

Marni
Graphic tee
$400,
netaporter.com

One-minute miracle

Pantene Pro-V Ultimate 10 BB Crème $8, pantene.ca

"The latest in the BB cream craze takes a good idea even further. The multi-tasking potion delivers smoother, softer, shinier, possibly happier and altogether healthier locks, thanks to a supercharged leave-in formula. For those extended, in-between-haircuts stretches, the cream's also an effective remedy for split ends. And did we mention it smells great too?"

Ashley Kowalewski
The Kit.ca

FOR MORE FASHION AND BEAUTY NEWS YOU CAN USE, CATCH UP WITH THE KIT AT THEKIT.CA

The Kit

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Emma
Grad Student
Age: 25

What she's wearing
Rag & Bone shirt, Zara shoes and blazer, Material Girl pants, Rebecca Minkoff bag, KBL sunglasses.

Her inspiration
I'm inspired by street style and fashion blogs. Right now, I love the marriage of spring-floral and colour with simple classic pieces.

THE KIT IS A MULTI-PLATFORM BEAUTY AND FASHION BRAND WHICH INCLUDES AN INTERACTIVE MAGAZINE AND DYNAMIC APP, A WEBSITE, KIT CHAT – AN E-NEWSLETTER PROGRAM – AND A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER SECTION TOO!

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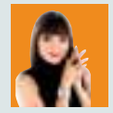

JEANNE SPACE
Jeanne Beker
life@metronews.ca

TWITTER HAS BECOME A COOL AND SUCCINCT WAY OF COMMUNICATING. IT ALLOWS ME TO BE ACCESSIBLE, INSTANTLY SPEAK MY MIND AND CONNECTS ME WITH ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE. WHETHER IT'S A FASHION QUESTION OR YOU JUST WANT TO COMMENT ON LIFE'S BIGGER PICTURE, I'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

My capsule optical collection from @Fyshnation @brillcomm fall preview for @EDITbyJeanneB

Backstage at the "Most Wanted" benefit fashion show for Princess Margaret.... Beautiful clothes from @MilliCanada

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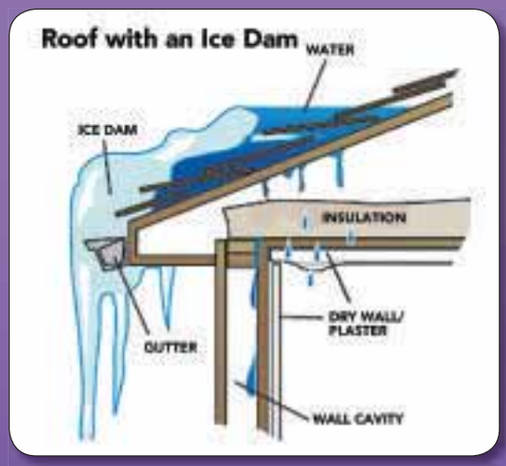

An ice dam can occur when snow accumulates on the roof of a house with inadequate insulation. Heat conducted through the insufficient insulation warms the roof and melts the snow on those areas of the roof that are above living spaces, but does not melt the snow on roof overhangs. Eventually, ice accumulates along the eave and in the gutter. Snow that melts later cannot drain properly through the ice on the eave and in the gutter, resulting in leaks which lead to damaged ceilings, walls, roof structures and insulation. Right now the Government is offering grants to homeowners who want to protect their homes by reinforcing their existing attic insulation. There is no better time to protect your home.

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Modernize your backyard this season

Outdoor. Four tips from celebrity landscape designer Carson Arthur just in time for May long weekend

Upgraded decks using MicroPro Sienna look great right away and updated outdoor furnishings, like this daybed, make the backyard a comfortable and functional extension of your home. BOB GUNDU

We all have our spring backyard rituals to help create the perfect summer retreat, but sometimes you want to do a little more to upgrade your space. Maybe your deck needs a little love or you're just looking to bring new life to your outdoor spaces.

No matter what your backyard ambition is this summer, here are the top four outdoor improvements I'm going to be doing in my own spaces.

1. Make room for veggies and herbs

I'm always encouraging homeowners to remove a strip of grass and replace it with a veggie and herb garden.

Lawns suck up more water, fertilizers, insecticides, herbicides and fungicides than anything else on our properties. Growing veggies is lower maintenance, convenient and still gives you that green backyard look. I'm trying some new varieties of lettuce, heirloom tomatoes, Thai basil and zucchini, for the blossoms. Growing your own food is satisfying and you know exactly what you are eating and where it came from because you grew it yourself.

Plus, this fits in perfectly with the local eating movement. What's more local than your own backyard?

2. Resurface your deck with a wood that doesn't require staining so you can enjoy your backyard sooner and with a lot less effort

Maintaining the look of your wooden deck is important, but the ritual of sanding and staining can become overwhelming every spring. Fortunately, new technology by MicroPro Sienna takes a lot of the work out of deck maintenance.

I'll be using MicroPro Sienna for my new cottage deck, this environmentally friendly alternative to the classic pressure-treated wood comes ready to install in a rich cedar tone, can be used in water and works well with aluminum fasteners and details.

This new type of pressure-treated wood is versatile for any outdoor project. It is going to be perfect at my cottage, and all of my guests will think I spent a lot on cedar.

3. Use garden art to update your outdoor spaces and solve some of your garden dilemmas

Some spaces in the garden just won't grow plants. My fans and clients always ask for different options, but nothing seems to work. Why not add something that looks great and requires no care? My favourite garden art includes metal sculptures that look great when they rust and wooden obelisks that I can grow vines on.

Other materials that work well outdoors include mirrors, glass, terra-cotta pots and jars and handmade pottery. Not only is there no maintenance, art in the garden is an easy way to have a creative space that is uniquely yours.

4. Bring the indoors out

Outdoor furniture is no longer about striped or floral pillows on a patio set. The latest outdoor furniture uses stain and water resistant knitted fabrics, graphic prints and bold motifs to mimic the look and feel of its indoor cousins. With these stunning new options, every homeowner can create their dream outdoor room. I am stepping it up on the patio this year by investing in a resin wicker and aluminum set, which is rustproof and made from recycled plastic. Stylish and eco-friendly all at the same time!

Be smart about the choices you are going to make this year in your own outdoor spaces. Think about the way you want to spend your summer days. Make choices that allow you to have the quality of life you deserve.

Carson Arthur

When not in the dirt with his eco-friendly landscape design company, Carson stays busy building, planting, writing or designing as a featured guest on CityLine and Steven & Chris. You can check him out at carsonarthur.com.

Fish delights with cabbage and pico de gallo and cream sauce — oh my!

Baja, the peninsula of Mexico located south of California, is famous for its fish tacos, which are gaining popularity around the globe. These lightly fried fish delights are layered with cabbage, cream sauce and pico de gallo salsa.

1. Mexican White Sauce: In a small bowl, combine mayonnaise, yogurt and lime juice. Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours or for up to 24 hours.

2. In a large bowl, combine tomatoes, green onions, jalapenos, serrano chiles, onion and cilantro. Add lime juice and mix. Transfer to airtight container and refrigerate, stirring occasionally for one hour or up to 24 hours. Add salt just to taste before serving.

3. Batter: In a large bowl, combine flour, beer and salt. Mix well to a thick consistency.

4. Tacos: Rinse fish and pat dry with paper towel. Cut crosswise into 2.5-cm (1-inch) wide strips.

5. Fill a deep fryer or deep skillet with 2.5 cm (1 inch) of oil and heat to 180 C (350 F). Using tongs, dredge fish pieces in batter and gently place in oil. Deep-fry 4 pieces at a time, turning once, until golden brown, about 1 minute per side. Drain on paper towels. Discard any excess batter.

6. In a griddle or skillet over medium-high heat, heat each tortilla on each side until soft and pliable. Wrap in foil to keep warm until ready to use. To build tacos, divide fish equally among warm tortillas. Top with cabbage, Mexican white sauce and pico de gallo. Fold tortillas in half.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ RECIPES ON THIS PAGE APPEAR IN 200 EASY MEXICAN RECIPES: AUTHENTIC RECIPES FROM BURRITOS TO ENCHILADAS BY KELLEY CLEARY COFFEEN (ROBERT ROSE INC. 2013).

Ingredients

Mexican White Sauce
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) mayonnaise
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) plain yogurt
- Juice of 1 lime

Pico de gallo
- 4 tomatoes, seeded and diced
- 4 green onions, green parts only, minced
- 3 jalapeno peppers, 2 serrano chile peppers, seeded and minced
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 2 tbsp minced cilantro
- juice of 2 limes
- kosher salt

Batter
- 250 ml (1 cup) all-purpose flour
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) light beer
- 5 ml (1 tsp) kosher salt

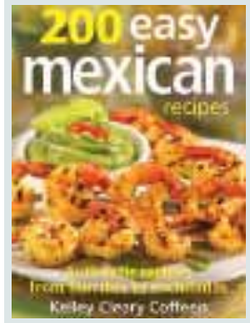
Tacos
- 750 g (1 1/2 lb) skinless cod or tilapia fillets
- Vegetable oil
- 8 flour tortillas
- 250 ml (1 cup) each shredded red and green cabbage

Fresh Baja Fish Tacos

This recipe serves eight. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

Cookbook of the Week

Mexican simplified



Using authentic Mexican recipes as her inspiration, Kelley Cleary Coffeen releases her book 200 Easy Mexican Recipes.

Made with ingredients easily found at local grocery stores, the dishes featured in the book are quick to make, easy to serve and affordable.

Among the aromatic and flavourful dishes found in the book are: Shrimp Ceviche, Green Chile and Chicken Tacos, Shredded Beef Chimichanga, Burrito Bowls, and Caramel Flan. **METRO**

Margarita moonlights as a dessert ingredient in pie

This recipe serves six. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

Although many people may not associate Mexican food with sweets, the refreshing, simple flavours of a margarita are unmistakable in this dessert.

The pie is light, luscious and quick to make.

Just make sure you use a high-quality prepared liquid margarita mix with a medium sweet-sour balance.

1. In a medium bowl, using an electric mixer, beat eggs and egg yolks until thick and pale, about 2 minutes. Continue mixing and add lime juice, condensed milk, margarita mix and food colouring and beat for 2 to 3 minutes.

2. Pour into pie shell and bake in 180 C (350 F) oven until centre is firm, about 25 minutes. Let cool completely. Cover and refrigerate until chilled for at least 1 hour or for up to 4 hours.

3. Just before serving, in a medium chilled bowl, using an electric mixer on medium-high speed, beat whipping cream and sugar until soft peaks form, 6 to 8 minutes. Serve slices of pie on individual plates topped with whipped cream and garnished with lime slices.

Ingredients
- 2 eggs
- 2 egg yolks
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) freshly squeezed lime juice
- 1 can (300 ml/14 oz) sweetened condensed milk
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) liquid margarita mix
- 3 drops green food colouring
- 1 purchased vanilla-flavoured cookie crumb crust or graham-cracker crust (23 cm/9 inches)
- 250 ml (1 cup) heavy or whipping (35 per cent) cream
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) granulated sugar
- 1 lime, thinly sliced

Chicken and Lime Soup

This hearty chicken soup has a light citrusy flavour that makes it especially good for summer meals. Layers of garlic and lime embrace the fresh avocado garnish

1. In a large skillet, heat 15 ml (1 tbsp) of the oil over medium-high heat. Add chicken and cook, turning once, until no longer pink inside, 6 to 8 minutes per side. Transfer chicken to a cutting board and let cool.

2. In a large pot, heat remaining oil over medium heat. Add onion, garlic and tomatoes. Cover and cook until onion is softened, 4 to 6 minutes. Add chicken broth and lime juice.

3. Dice cooked chicken and add to pot. Cover and bring to a boil over medium heat. Reduce heat to low and simmer for 10 minutes. Ladle into individual bowls and garnish with equal amounts of tortilla chips, avocado and green onion.

Ingredients
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) olive oil
- 4 boneless skinless chicken breasts
- 250 ml (1 cup) chopped onion
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tomatoes, seeded and chopped
- 1.5 l (6 cups) chicken broth
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) freshly squeezed lime juice
- 500 ml (2 cups) broken corn tortilla chips
- 2 avocados, diced
- 4 green onions, green parts only, minced

Make your home warm and inviting

Friends, family, neighbours. Take the craziness out of unexpected visits with a little planning

In the warmth and sunshine of summer, Canadians open their doors, get outside and take full advantage of the barbecue season. It seems like every weekend is packed full of visits with friends, families and neighbours.

In fact, it's often those unexpected visits that turn out to be the most fun, even if it causes a mad rush to tidy the house and dig into the cupboards to pull together a meal everyone will enjoy.

Take the craziness out of unexpected visits with a little advanced planning.

It's called seasonal pantry loading and it helps families to be ready for whatever their summer has to offer. Rather than buying what you need for a specific period of time, stock your pantry with those items that can easily be stored and help you provide a quick and tasty meal at a moment's notice.

For example, all-in-one serving kits are always good to have on hand — such as taco or salad kits. Have options ready so all you need is to add your core fresh ingredient and you have a meal.

So next time you take a trip to the grocery store, consider those items that will help you be prepared anytime, any day.

NEWS CANADA

Thyme-Rubbed Flank Steak with Balsamic Pearl Onions. NEWS CANADA

Recipe. Thyme-Rubbed Flank Steak with Balsamic Pearl Onions

According to a recent Grill-Watch survey, steak tops the list as the all time favourite food to grill, according to 44 per cent of respondents. This steak recipe from Weber's New Real Grilling cookbook is quick and easy to prepare and perfect for a weekday dinner.

Ingredients

- ¾ cup water
- ½ cup balsamic vinegar
- 2 tbsp honey
- 1½ tsp tomato paste
- 1 large bay leaf
- 1 package (14 ounces) frozen pearl onions, thawed
- 3½ tsp finely chopped fresh thyme leaves, divided
- 2 tsp kosher salt, divided
- 1 tsp freshly ground black pepper, divided
- 1 flank steak, about 1½ pounds and ¾-inch thick
- 1 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
- Fresh thyme sprigs (optional)

1 In a large skillet combine the water, vinegar, honey, tomato paste, and bay leaf. Add the onions and bring to a simmer over medium-low heat. Cover and simmer for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Uncover the skillet and increase the heat to high. Boil until the liquid starts to thicken and is reduced to 4 to 5 tablespoons, about 5 minutes. Remove from the heat and stir in 1½ teaspoons of the thyme, 1 teaspoon of the salt, and ½ teaspoon of the pepper. The sauce will continue to thicken as it cools. If necessary, add water, 1 tablespoon at a time, to thin the mixture to your desired consistency.

2 Combine the remaining 2 teaspoons thyme, 1 teaspoon salt, and ½ teaspoon pepper. Brush the steak on both sides with the oil and season evenly with the spice mixture, pressing the spices into the meat. Allow the steak to stand at room temperature for 15 to 30 minutes before grilling.

3 Prepare the grill for direct cooking over medium heat (350 to 450 F).

4 Grill the steak over direct medium heat, with the lid closed, until cooked to your desired doneness, 8 to 10 minutes for medium rare, turning once or twice. Remove from the grill and let rest for 3 to 5 minutes. Cut the steak across the grain into thin slices. Serve immediately with the onions and their sauce. Garnish with thyme, if using. Serves four. Prep time: 15 minutes. Grilling time: 8 to 10 minutes.

NEWS CANADA

NHL

Oilers may get new arena after all

The on-again-off-again deal to build a new rink for the Edmonton Oilers is on — again.

City councillors and the Edmonton Oilers agreed Wednesday to split the cost of the final $30 million needed to green-light the new arena in the city's downtown in time for the 2016-17 season.

"This has been a long and difficult process," Mayor Stephen Mandel told councillors. "We need to make sure that we build a city that attracts and retains the younger generation."

Construction is to start next spring and the city plans to pay off some of its debt through increased tax revenues from shops and businesses expected to spring up around the arena. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Toews, Bergeron, Datsyuk named Selke finalists

Jonathan Toews of the Chicago Blackhawks, Patrice Bergeron of the Boston Bruins and Pavel Datsyuk of the Detroit Red Wings are finalists for the Frank J. Selke Trophy as the NHL's best defensive forward.

Toews, a Selke finalist for the second time, finished third in the NHL in plus-minus with a plus-28 rating.

Bergeron, who won last year, was the NHL's top face-off man this season at 62.1 per cent. He had a plus-24 rating.

Datsyuk, a three-time winner, tied with Toews for the league lead in takeaways with 56 and topped the Red Wings in plus-minus at plus-21. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL

"He is excited about coming to Toronto. Once football starts, it will be all about football."

Argos GM Jim Barker on defensive lineman Khalif Mitchell, who resisted a trade to Toronto earlier in the off-season.

The Hawk has left the building

CFL. Roughriders defensive lineman Hawkins calls it a career

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Brent Hawkins announced his retirement from the CFL on Wednesday, about one month before the 2013 CFL pre-season is set to begin.

Hawkins was a veteran presence at the defensive lineman position for the Saskatchewan Roughriders since joining the team in April 2010.

Despite obvious talent at the position, Hawkins' time with the Riders was troubled by injuries. He missed the entire 2011 season after sustaining a shoulder injury.

"It was just taking longer and longer to recover and I didn't want to put this team in jeopardy," said Hawkins. "Every year I have been here I've had something go wrong with me and I'm getting to this phase in my life, almost being 30 years old, and having these shoulder injuries that keep coming at me."

Last season Hawkins played 14 regular season games with 24 defensive tackles and four sacks.

"He was a good player for us," said Riders GM Brendan Taman. "He was a good energy kind of guy and a really good teammate, but we have been talking for a couple weeks and have come to the conclusion he is going to pack it in."

Taman said there could be some moves in the coming weeks that will shake the team up a bit and make up for the absence of Hawkins on the Riders' defensive line.

Hawkins says he has planted roots in Regina and plans to stick around the Queen City in his retirement.

"I've stayed here every off-season since I came out here," said Hawkins. "I have really come to call this place home."

Roughriders defensive lineman Brent Hawkins leaps after a last-second win over the Blue Bombers last September in Winnipeg. Hawkins announced his retirement on Wednesday. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Sedins in Canada's sights for quarter-final

Regina's Jordan Eberle practises on Wednesday in Stockholm. THE CANADIAN PRESS

For Canada to get past the IIHF World Championship quarter-final for the first time in four years, the Sedins must be contained.

Vancouver Canucks forwards Daniel and Henrik Sedin joined the host country after Canada's 3-0 win over Sweden in the preliminary round.

The addition of the twins and Canucks defenceman Alex Edler inject confidence and offence into Sweden that the team lacked earlier in the tournament. Canada expects an improved opponent Thursday at the Globe Arena.

"With their additions to their team, we've got to make sure we're doing the right things with the puck," Canadian forward and Regina native Jordan Eberle said. "You can't turn it over with the high offence they have."

The quarter-final has been Canada's banana peel lately with three straight losses knocking Canadian teams out of medal contention. Eberle was a part of all those losses and doesn't want an early exit a fourth time.

"For me, anyway, it's been a game that's been tough to get by, so I'm really looking forward to tomorrow night," he said. "Playing Sweden in Sweden, it doesn't get much better than that.

"We want to make sure we're bringing our best in a one-game elimination that any team can win. You can't be soft that night or else you're in trouble."

Canada (5-1-1-0) finished second in the Stockholm pool ahead of third-seeded Sweden (5-2). THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 SPORTS

Bruins tasked with dethroning King Henrik, Rangers

NHL playoffs. Reigning Vezina Trophy winner coming off consecutive shutouts of Capitals

Henrik Lundqvist recorded back-to-back shutouts to lead the Rangers past the Captitals in the opening round. PAUL BERESWILL/GETTY IMAGES

Putting the puck past Henrik Lundqvist is a huge challenge for the Boston Bruins.

Of course, they have to get it to him first, and that's a tough task against the shot-blocking New York Rangers.

"They're definitely going to be laying down to block those shots," Boston forward Patrice Bergeron said after practice for Thursday night's series opener. "We have to be aware of that. I think it's about finding ways to get that puck to the net and faking shots and moving more."

On Monday night, it seemed the Bruins wouldn't have to worry about that. They were close to elimination.

Then they rallied from a three-goal deficit in the last 11 minutes of the third period and beat the Toronto Maple Leafs 5-4 on Bergeron's overtime goal in Game 7.

"You don't give up," Bruins forward Jaromir Jagr said Wednesday, but "if you try to do it again, you're probably not going to do it even if you try 100 times, but it happened."

Now it's time to forget that unforgettable comeback. It's time for the Eastern Conference semifinals, the first playoff meeting between the teams in 40 years.

Lundqvist, last year's Vezina Trophy winner and finalist for that award this season, enters the series with consecutive shutouts in Games 6 and 7 against the Washington Capitals. He stopped 62 shots in those games while facing elimination. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Heat dodge Bulls, keep up fast pace to NBA final

Chicago's Joakim Noah and Miami's Chris Bosh jump for the ball at the tip-off for Game 5 of their Eastern Conference semifinal series on Wednesday night. The Heat got the 94-91 victory and won the series 4-1 to punch their ticket to the conference final. MIKE EHRMANN/GETTY IMAGES

Seattle shot down

NBA rejects Kings relocation

After nearly four months spent awaiting a decision on the return of professional basketball, Seattle was left feeling jilted again on Wednesday.

And wondering when, and if, the NBA will ever reappear.

The NBA board of governors rejected the prospective relocation of the Sacramento Kings, voting 22-8 in Dallas to deny the move of the franchise.

That led to angry reactions from NBA fans in Seattle who spent months thinking they might see the return of the SuperSonics with investor Chris Hansen and Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer as owners.

A few hours after the announcement, Hansen posted a statement to his SonicsArena.com website thanking fans for their support and saying, "Our day will come ... and when it does it will just be that much sweeter for the struggle."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Is it OK to be ambitious? Is it OK to do better than others? Of course it is and anyone who says otherwise is not to be trusted. People are not all the same and, to be blunt, you're better than most.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
After the events of the past few days, you may want to treat yourself gently over the next 24 hours. Give yourself time to unwind and assess the full implications of the changes that have been taking place.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You may not understand why a certain person acts the way they do but that is no reason to hold it against them. People have different personalities. You have several yourself.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You must not agree to anything if you don't know for certain what it is going to cost. Someone with a persuasive manner will make a risky venture sound like it's a sure thing. Don't be fooled.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
When your instincts tell you one thing and friends tells you another, who do you trust? You trust your instincts, of course. Today's cosmic influences warn that people may not see things as clearly as you.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Not everything has a simple explanation and if you are smart you will dig to find out what has really been going on. Check both sides of the story.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Someone you live or work with believes you owe them something. They also believe they can sit back and let you do the work. Make sure they know that isn't going to happen.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Usually, if something feels good that's a sure sign that it is good. But today there is a real chance that what feels good could actually be bad for you. Whatever you do make sure it is done in moderation.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Don't believe everything you hear over the next 24 hours, not even if it comes from sources you know you can trust. Friends may not be trying to mislead you but they may have been misled themselves.

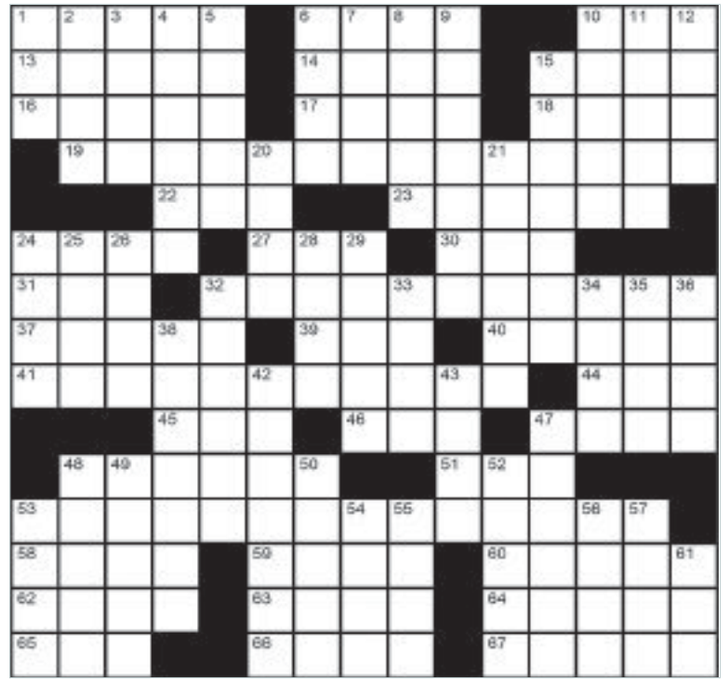
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The influence of Pluto in your sign makes you even more suspicious than usual. Having said that, perhaps it's a point in your favour that you insist on being shown hard evidence before you take action.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Get out into the world and make things happen. The world is full of people who talk a good game, but very few who actually do something positive. Be one of the latter.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
If you have made a promise, you must keep it. If you try to wriggle out of it, your rep will suffer. You enjoyed short-term benefits, now pay long-term costs. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

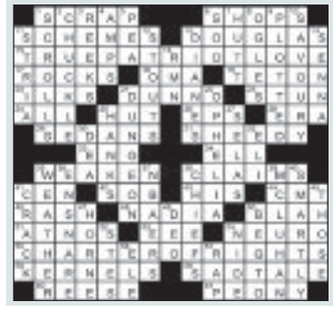
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. __ class (Misses the lecture)
6. TV __ (Watch shows on them)
10. Toy dog's fave place
13. Snip again
14. 'Silver' suffix
15. "__... __ ahead and try it already!" (Stop stalling, eat!)
16. Angered
17. Husk
18. Dix - Deux = ?
19. John Baird, Minister of __ __
22. Bed-and-Breakfast
23. Mr. Richie, "Hello" singer
24. Grateful __
27. "60 Minutes" network
30. Forever, practically
31. Time-saving abbr.
32. Waaay far back
37. Doofus
39. That extra amount on a bill
40. Ludicrous
41. Kraft Singles, basically ...but only one: 2 wds.
44. No __, ands or buts.
45. Poetic contraction
46. Piercing place
47. Big deals
48. Take to be true
51. Cleopatra's cobra
53. Place of commerce in early Canada: acr. + 2 wds.
58. U2's home
59. Ancient Egypt: Son of Ramses I
60. Once more
62. Jewish calendar month
63. Prude
64. Lead/tin alloy
65. "Losing My Religion" rockers
66. Labourer, in olde Anglo-Saxon times
67. Swamp plant

Down
1. Lanka's lead
2. Sawing cut
3. Flight-related UN Agency headquartered in Montreal [acronym]
4. Foul in odour
5. Jan __ (Dutch painter)
6. Loot
7. Yield, such as profit
8. Tribulation
9. Smartphone owner's auto-taken pics
10. Stand-up comic Mr. Anderson
11. No Doubt hit: "Just _ _ _ "
12. __ and pans
15. SNL alum Molly, star of "Superstar" (1999)
20. Price hike [abbr.]
21. Soccer, to Brits [var. sp.]
24. Son, e.g., on a family tree
25. Retro toy, __ A Sketch
26. Pine-in-the-heart for
28. Reckons
29. Sedimentary rock
32. Phony person
33. Iris family plant with sword-like leaves
34. Maraud
35. Content or data, briefly
36. Opening to 'pool' or 'pit'
38. Actress, Leighton __
42. All†together: 2 wds.
43. Rocky projection (Mountaineering challenge)
47. Highest orbital point
48. Put up with
49. "Buzz off!"
50. Utopias
52. Tiffs
53. Pick up on sound
54. The Jacksons tune: "Blame __ the Boogie": 2 wds.
55. Evening, fun-style
56. Partially eaten fish in a tin?
57. Plucked guitar string sound
61. Born, in bridal bios

Yesterday's Crossword



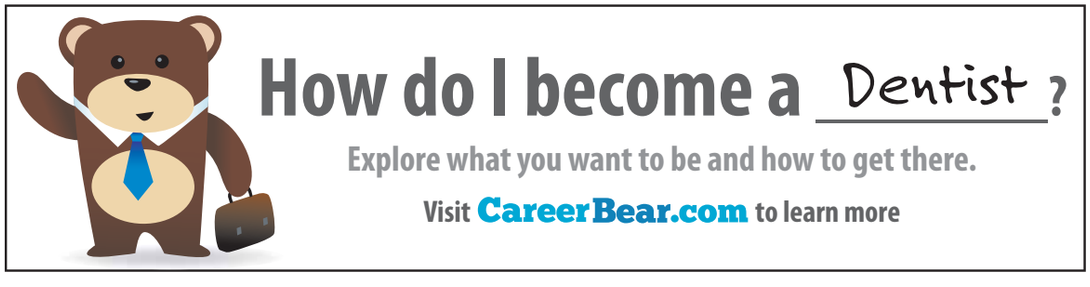
Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

	8		2		1		5	
		9				1		
	2		4		9		6	
	3	5				6	1	
7								8
	4	2				3	9	
	5		1		3		7	
		7				9		
	9		6		7		4	

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	9	8	7	4	2	1	3	5
2	3	1	9	8	5	6	7	4
5	4	7	6	1	3	9	8	2
1	8	3	5	2	7	8	4	9
4	2	9	1	3	8	7	5	6
7	8	5	4	6	9	2	1	3
3	1	6	8	9	4	5	2	7
9	7	2	3	5	1	4	6	8
8	5	4	2	7	6	3	9	1



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